

EXHIBIT

19

DATE

3-26-13

HR

HR 4

March 26, 2013

Testimony: House Agriculture Committee Public Hearing, March 26, 2013|

RE: HR4

TO: House Agriculture Committee Chair and Committee members

I urge you to OPPOSE HR4. I am a voter and live in Rep. Kerry White's district (HD 70). Rep. White does not represent my views on The Forest Jobs and Recreation Act (FJRA) which I support. I am also presenting the testimony of six other Montana citizens who oppose HR4 and support FJRA, five of whom live in Rep. White's district. Rep. White does not represent the interests of any of these constituents on this issue.

FJRA is the result of productive collaboration by Montana citizens from all parts of the state, including business leaders, loggers, hunters, anglers, trail riders, snowmobilers, hikers, campers, and others who chose to come together to work through differences and provide ways to create jobs, protect clean water, safeguard hunting and fishing habitat, and keep special areas of Montana backcountry wild for present and future generations. FJRA has something for everyone and each of these pursuits will promote our state economy. Regarding agriculture, grazing rights are not impacted by FJRA. I have hiked and backpacked in Wilderness areas ~~were~~ where cattle grazing is allowed and occurs.

However, what this bill does not have is everything that any one person or group wants. Those who refused to come to the table and work constructively together to achieve goals that would serve Montana well are among those who are objecting now. Our country is diverse and Montana is becoming more diverse and is benefiting from that diversity. FJRA is an opportunity for Montana to lead the entire country through a proactive approach and new vision for jobs and public land management. FJRA is being considered at the national level and that's where it deserves to be.

Earlier this session, HR4 (formerly HJ8) was considered by the House Natural Resources Committee and was voted down twice in that committee by bipartisan votes. HJ8 was tabled and that should have ended its consideration this session. Unfortunately, the text of HJ8 was allowed to be reintroduced as HR4 and assigned to the House Agriculture Committee. This action defies the rules of the state legislature and interrupts consideration of important agricultural issues, the true domain of this committee and the reason why each of you were assigned to serve on this committee. This resolution has failed in the state legislature twice this session and deserves rejection by this committee. Support Montana jobs, recreation, and economic interests by voting NO on HR4.

*Patti Steinmuller*

Patti Steinmuller

14665 Spanish Breaks Trail, Gallatin Gateway, MT 59730

406-763-4145